THE HUMBLE

PETITION

OF THE

Lord Major, Aldermen and Commons

of the City of *LONDON*,

IN

Common-Councell

ASSEMBLED:

Presented to the Right Honourable

THE

LORDS and COMMONS

in Parliament Assembled:

WITH

The Answer of the *Lords* to the said

PETITION.

Printed by RICHARD COTES Printer to the Honorable City of *London*, *August* 8. 1648.

TO THE RIGHT HONOVRABLE THE Lords and Commons In Parliament Assembled.

The humble Petition of the Lord Major, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London in Common-Councell assembled.

SHEWETH,

THat your Petitioners being deeply sensible of the sad, miserable, and deplorable condition of the King, Parliament and Kingdom, by the long continuance of a bloody and unnaturall Warr, (whereof they had great hopes to be freed) after the Common enemy was subdued; the Army of our Brethren of

Scotland withdrawn; and the Kings Majesty placed at *Holdenby*, by consent of both Kingdoms, (in order to a happy composure of all differences both in Church and State;) But contrary to expectation, your Petitioners, to the great grief and sorrow of their soules, doe finde the Government of the Church to be still unsetled; Blasphemy, Heresie, Schism, and prophaneness increased; The relief of bleeding *Ireland* obstructed; The Warr (to their great astonishment) again renewed; The people of *England* thereby miserably impoverished and oppressed; The blood of our fellow Subjects (spilt like water upon the ground;) Our Brethren of *Scotland* (now entred this Kingdom) in a hostile manner; His Highness the Prince of *Wales* commanding at Sea a considerable part of the Navie, and other Ships under His power, having already made stay of many English Ships, with Merchandizes and Provisions to a very great value. By reason whereof, Navigation will be destroyed, Seamen desert us, Merchants inforced to leave off trading, Clothing and other manufactures of

this

this Kingdom fall to the ground, Wooll, which is the ſtaple Commodity of the Land remain unſold, the Mint ſtand ſtill, Cuſtomes and other profits by Merchandizing will be very much abated, if not utterly deſtroyed; Corn, Salt, Cole, Fiſh, Butter, Cheeſe, and all other proviſions brought by Sea to this City and Kingdom ſtopped; The innumerable number of the poorer ſort depending onely upon manufactures, wanting work and bread, (as is greatly feared) will in a very ſhort time become tumultuous in all parts of the Kingdom, and many inforced to remove themſelves and families into Forraign parts, and there ſettle the manufactures of this Kingdome never to be regained: All which will unavoidably (in a very ſhort time) totally ruine the people of this Kingdom.

Your Petitioners humbly conceive no viſible way can prevent the apparent ruine of theſe Kingdomes, but the ſpeedy freeing of His Majeſty from that reſtraint wherein He now remaines, and by a Perſonall Treaty reſtoring to the King His juſt Rights, to the Parliament

their

their undoubted priviledges; to the People their Native Freedomes and benefit of the Lawes, being (the Birth-right of every Subject) and by the due attendance of the Members of Parliament in discharge of their trust to the Kingdome; and in observing the self-denying Ordinance.

The Premisses considered, your Petitioners doe humbly pray, That the Kings Majesty may bee speedily freed from that restraint wherein hee now remaines, and humbly invited unto a Personall Treaty, for the setling of a safe and well-grounded Peace; And that therein the Union betweene the two Kingdomes may bee preserved; That in the interim all acts of hostility both by Sea and Land may by command from King and Parliament cease; and Trade free without interruption; That the Government of the Church may bee speedily setled according to the Covenant; distressed *Ireland* releived; the People of the Land (by disbanding all Armies) may bee eased of their intollerable burthens; The Liberty of the

Subject

Subject reſtored; the Lawes of the Land eſtabliſhed; the Members of this Honorable Houſe enjoyned to attend the ſervice of the Kingdome; that the Self-denying Ordinance may be effectually obſerved. And that this Honorable Houſe would be pleaſed, ſpeedily to take into their ſerious conſideration the ſad condition of ſuch Merchants, whoſe ſhips and goods are under the power of that Fleet, which is now with His Highneſſe the Prince of *Wales*, and ſuddainly to finde ſome expedient for their releaſment.

And your Petitioners ſhall daily pray, &c.

Die

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Die Martis, 8 Augusti, 1648.

THe Lords have commanded me to let you know, That they doe thankfully accept your often renewed expreſſions of your ardent zeal and care that all poſſible meanes ſhould be uſed for the procuring a ſafe and wel-grounded Peace; wherein they doe ſo farr ſympathize with your deſires, that they do aſſure you, you may with all confidence expect their conſtant and induſtrious employment of their utmoſt endeavours for the obtaining of ſo great a bleſſing, whereunto they hope Almighty God will give a happy ſucceſs. And for the particulars contained in your Petitions, they will take them into ſpeedy conſideration, that you may reap all ſatisfaction and contentment thereby, ſo farr forth as lies in their powers, as they are bound in their duty they owe to the Commonwealth, and as they are obliged to the renowned Citie of *London* for their inceſſant demonſtrations of their affection and ſervice to the Parliament ever ſince the beginning of theſe unhappy diſtractions.

Io. Browne, Cler. Parliamentorum.

FINIS.